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guage, its relation to the Turanian (Altaic) family, its phonology; the priority of the Accadian population of Chaldea; the Sumerian influence in Chaldean and Babylonian civilization; the archaic legislation of the Accadians, and other kindred topics. Under the topics "Chaldean Demonology," "Chaldean Amulets," "Chaldean Sorcery," many strange facts are given. The comparison between Egyptian and Chaldean magic, and between Accadian and Egyptian magic is a most interesting one.

This volume must be regarded as, upon the whole, a most important contribution to the literature of the department of Comparative Mythology. Much work has been done in the Assyrian field since the issue of this book, and many new discoveries, doubtless, have been made; yet the material here gathered is to be regarded as trustworthy and up with the times.

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#### DOWN IN EGYPT.\*

Since the hieroglyphics have found their tongues, and pyramid and obelisk and temple wall become historians, we know more of the Egypt of the Pharaohs than of the Egypt of the Pashas. This is partly because there is more to know of the former, and partly because of the wonderful exactness and life-likeness with which that long vanished civilization has been reproduced.

"Israel in Egypt" is a recent addition to the rapidly increasing literature of this subject. The title of the book scarcely reveals its real scope, as it is of Egypt rather than of Israel that we read. The writer's object is to present in an interesting, popular form, the results of modern discoveries and advances in Egyptology, and give his readers a picture of the life and society there revealed. He blots out the ages that have passed. That far away yesterday is to-day again. We walk through the land of Thothmes and Rameses, as we might through France or Italy, through a living land, full of work, and pleasure, and sorrow—full of human life.

The larger part of the book is of this nature, descriptive. The temples with all their solemn and severe grandeur, the home life of the people, cheery and kind, their industries, their religious life, these are depicted in turn. Then follows a section upon early Egyptian history, and the book ends with a chapter upon the Exodus.

It is very pleasant reading, rather recreation than study, but at the same time affords valuable aid in understanding the times of which it treats. Mr. Clark is a good word painter, and some of his bits of coloring are very fine. There are beside the word pictures, more than two hundred illustrations. The book is well gotten up, mechanically, and the large type and generous pages will recommend it to those who live by their eyes.

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#### SACRED MOUNTAINS AND SCENES.†

In reading the Bible, we frequently invest its scenes and persons with such a sacred (so called) atmosphere, that they become unreal to us. Theoretically, we believe in the existence of Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Samuel, while, in reality, we

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\* ISRAEL IN EGYPT; Egypt's place among the Ancient Monarchies. By Edward L. Clark. New York: *Nelson & Phillips*. Pp. xvi, 352. \$4.00.

† SACRED MOUNTAINS, CHARACTERS AND SCENES IN THE HOLY LAND. By Rev. J. T. Headley. New York: *C. Scribner's Sons*. 5½x7¼, pp. 441. \$2.00.